

10/766,429000406-804/TRWP123US**REMARKS**

Claims 1-23, 28-31 and 34 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Claims 1, 12, 15, 20, 28 and 34 have been amended as shown on pp. 7 - 11 to better define the invention and correct minor informalities. Claims 4, 14, 22 and 29 have been cancelled. Claims 24-27 and 32-33 have been withdrawn. The specification has been amended as indicated on p. 2 -6 of the reply.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

**I. Objection to the disclosure**

The disclosure has been scrutinized closely and to the extent of the knowledge of the applicant's representative all the minor informalities have been corrected as shown in the amendments to the specification.

**II. Rejection of Claims 1-2, 8-11 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)**

Claims 1-2, 8-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Chan (6,833,734). Applicant's representative respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Chan fails to disclose all limitations of the subject claims.

A single prior art reference anticipates a patent claim only if it *expressly or inherently describes each and every limitation* set forth in the patent claim. *Trintec Industries, Inc. v. Top-U.S.A. Corp.*, 295 F.3d 1292, 63 USPQ2d 1597 (Fed. Cir. 2002); *See Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). *The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.* *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

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The invention as claimed relates to systems and methods that utilize inductive current steering to improve logic circuit performance by mitigating propagation delays associated with conventional transistor current steering. To this end, independent claim 1 describes a switching system that employs inductive current steering comprising at least two elements whose respective secondary windings generate inductive currents in connection with applying a differential signal across the at least two elements, a steering component that directs the inductive currents to a switching component and a differential component associated with the switching component that employs the inductive currents to generate a differential output. Chan fails to suggest or teach these novel features of the claimed invention. Chan discloses a line driver that selectively drives one of two transmission lines. This line driver includes a differential amplifier connected to two differential switches, which in turn couple the output of the amplifier to two transmission lines respectively. As noted by the examiner in his statement of reasons for allowance the prior art of record fails to teach a switching system wherein respective secondary winding of the at least two elements generate inductive currents in connection with applying a different signal across the at least two elements. Therefore it is requested that this rejection with respect to independent claim 1 and the claims that depend there from should be withdrawn.

### III. Rejection of Claims 12-13, 18-19, 20-21, 34 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 12-13, 18-19, 20-21, 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Nuechterlein (5,663,672). Applicant's representative respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn for at least the following reasons. Nuechterlein fails to disclose all limitations of the subject claims.

A single prior art reference anticipates a patent claim only if it *expressly or inherently describes each and every limitation* set forth in the patent claim. *Trintec Industries, Inc. v. Top-U.S.A. Corp.*, 295 F.3d 1292, 63 USPQ2d 1597 (Fed. Cir. 2002); *See Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). *The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.*

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*Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 868 F.2d 1226, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989).*

The subject invention relates to systems and methods that utilize inductive current steering to improve logic circuit performance by mitigating propagation delays associated with conventional transistor current steering. In particular, independent claim 12 describes "*A switching system that utilizes inductive current steering, comprising a current steering component that generates activating and deactivating signals by inducing current in a secondary winding when a primary winding is energized by a signal from a single clock bus and a switching component that receives the activating and deactivating signals and generates a differential output based on the activating and deactivating signals.*" Nuechterlein describes a gate drive circuit for a power transistor that provides improved dielectric isolation and protection against inadvertent turn ON of the power transistor. As the examiner suggested in his reasons for allowance, this reference does not teach the novel features of the subject invention as set forth in the independent claim 12.

The independent claim 20 discloses *a data track and hold system that employs inductive current switching, comprising at least two data latches and a transformer based clock bus that controls the at least two data latches via inductive current, the transformer based clock bus comprises at least one transformer for each respective transistor of the at least two data latches, respective transformers provide inductive current to respective transistors, and the inductive current defines the state of the respective transistors.* As the examiner suggested in his reasons for allowance, this reference does not teach the novel features of the subject invention as set forth in independent claim 20.

The independent claim 34 describes *a system that provides inductive current to a differential transistor pair, comprising means for receiving one of a single or differential clock signal, means for receiving the clock signal, means for generating an inductive current based on the clock signal and means for steering the inductive current through the differential transistor pair.* As the examiner suggested in his reasons for allowance, the cited prior art does not teach or suggest a system that provides inductive

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currents to a differential transistor pair wherein the inductive currents are generated in connection to applying a single or a differential clock signal. Accordingly in view of at least the foregoing withdrawal of this rejection with respect to independent claims 12, 20, 34, their analogous method claims 28 - 31 as well as the claims that depend there from, is respectfully requested.

**IV. Rejection of Claim 23 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)**

Claim 23 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Nuechterlein (5,663,672) in view of Attwood et al. (4,992,751). This rejection should be withdrawn for the following reasons. The cited references, individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element set forth in the subject claims. In particular, Attwood *et al.* does not make up for the aforementioned deficiencies of Nuechterlein with respect to independent claim 20 (from which the subject claim depends). Thus, the subject invention as recited in the claim 23 is not obvious over the combination of Nuechterlein and Attwood *et al.* Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that this rejection of dependent claim 23 should be withdrawn.

10/766,429000406-804/TRWP123US**CONCLUSION**

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [TRWP123US].

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

AMIN & TUROCY, LLP

  
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Jeffrey R. Sadlowski  
Reg. No. 47,914

AMIN & TUROCY, LLP  
24<sup>TH</sup> Floor, National City Center  
1900 E. 9<sup>TH</sup> Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114  
Telephone (216) 696-8730  
Facsimile (216) 696-8731